

Bibliology

Building Conviction and Confidence in the Bible

Lesson # 9 – December 07, 2025



Text: Joshua 1:8, Proverbs 2:1-6; 3:1,2; II Timothy 2:15

Introduction: In our previous lessons, we have established the Word of God is “God’s Holy Word” without any errors or mistakes and that it is true / settled in heaven forever – Psalms 119:18. We noticed in our various texts we just read it used the words “to meditate”, “to seek”, “to understand”, “forget not”, “bind them”, “write them” and “study”. Each of these statements are action verbs which requires us to put the things it is referencing to **into action** (which is the Bible or God’s Word).

Lesson: Is it important to read or study the Word of God? Yes, it is, as this is God’s way to communicate to us. A closed Bible is a dead and stagnant communication with the Lord!

1. **What is reading vs studying?** – Reading gives you the “what” or the big picture story and general knowledge of scripture – like watching a movie. Now studying gives you the “how” and “why” – the deeper meaning, context, language and background. Someone once put it like this “Reading the Bible is a board overview, while studying it involves a deep, intentional analysis of specifies passages or topics”. Just remember that reading God’s Word is important too, but sometimes we need to use those action verbs mentioned above to increase our spiritual growth!

Note – Just remember that reading God’s Word brings you to a point in your spiritual growth to help you find things to study about God’s Word.

2. **Why should we be studying?** - There maybe numerous answers to this question, but our text – II Timothy 2:15 gives us a reason why we should study the Bible. Notice these **4 things** for the reasoning.
 - a. To be obedient to God – vrs. 15a - It says, “Study”, which is an indication or instruction to do it. It starts off with an instruction, not a request.
 - b. To show for approval of God – vrs. 15b - It does not tell us to study for the approval of man or people. So many people today are trying to obtain favor and approval from popular vote of the people in the world and churches – How? But you noticed, it says “approved unto God”. Why God? I believe - we should study to show ourselves approved so that we will be ready to tell or proclaim the word of truth at a moment's notice. We must know the Word and share it as God intends to be — straight, without wavering, or with a sugary coating that makes it easier to swallow. His Word is living, active and it will set a person free – John 8:32

- c. To not be ashamed before God – vrs. 15c – What are some ways we can be ashamed before God?
 - i. This means to be a diligent and faithful servant of God who has accurately studied and applied His word, thereby being a worker "approved" by Him. It means to live a life that reflects integrity and commitment to the Christian faith, with a deep understanding of scripture that can be shared truthfully without being embarrassed. Galatians 2:20; Philippians 1:21
- d. To rightly divide the Word of God – vrs. 15d - This refers to accurately and carefully interpreting and applying scripture, rather than misrepresenting it. The word for "rightly dividing" means "to cut straight". This simply means:
 - i. Tell it like it is
 - ii. Tell it without any bias or personal motivations
 - iii. Tell it properly within the contents of the Bible.
 - iv. Tell it with love and compassion.

3. What are ways to study?

- a. You must pray and ask the Lord for guidance and wisdom – Psalms 119:18; James 1:5
- b. You must have a Bible – KJV
- c. You can use some resources to look for ways to study. There are some good helps that you can use:
 - i. Our church's daily devotions
 - ii. Good study Bibles – ie, Thompson Chain Reference Bible, Old Scofield Bible, or any other study Bibles.
 - iii. Bible concordance
 - iv. Bible dictionary or handbook
 - v. Bible commentators (just be careful as these are the authors personal opinions and thoughts on certain passages of scriptures).
 - vi. Pen, high-light color markers and/or tablet (you can also make notes in your Bible). So it is okay to make notes in your Bible – Yes!

Note – Just remember, one of the fastest and best Bible studies is “sitting under your local pastor in your church faithfully each week” ---- I guarantee if you are committed, than God will be committed to you!!!!

- d. You can use certain methods to study (also today our cell phones, computers, tablets has daily Bible reading / studying passages to read).
 - i. There is the reading or studying the Bible through within a year (there are so many methods to this) but if you read 3 to 5 chapters a day, you would have accomplish reading the Bible through in a year (there 1,189 chapters in the Bible divided by 365 days – that would be 3.25 chapters a day).
 - ii. You can read it through from Genesis to Revelation, a couple of chapters in the Old Testament and a couple in the New Testament, and / or Alphabetic order and the list goes on.....Just open it and start!
 - iii. You can do topical studies (ie, the Love of God, the heroes of faith (Hebrews 11), women in the Bible, the life of the Apostle Paul, the life of Jesus, pictures of Jesus in the Old Testament and etc.).

- e. You cannot get frustrated or impatient when you read or study God's Word – There will be times that you read parts of the Bible and it was just bland or nothing there for you. Even the disciples of Jesus did not know what He spoke to them about after the resurrection, but shortly after they realized what He meant – Luke 24:13-32. So what do you do?
- i. Pray for wisdom
 - ii. Read it again
 - iii. Try to gain some insight from your resources.
 - iv. Ask your Pastor for advice about it.

Note – There are going to be times that the Word of God does not make any sense to you, because the Lord knows that you are not ready to receive it or that it is not applicable to you at this time.

Conclusion: Let's all do our part as Christians to study the Word of God to be approved of God, so we can rightly divide it to ourselves and to others.

